THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) The percentage of child labour (0—14 age group) to the total workers was 5.18 according to 1981 census (excluding Assam).

(b) and (c) The incidence of child labour in our country is mainly due to socio-economic compulsions.

The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 prohibits the employment of children below 14 years of age in certain specified occupations and processes. It also seeks to regulate their conditions of work in employments in which they are not prohibited from work. There are provisions in several other labour laws such as Factories Act, 1948, the Mines Act, 1952, the Beedi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966, the Shops and Commercial Establishments Act of the States|Union Territories etc. which either prohibit or regulate the employment of children in specific areas. Government have also formulated the National Policy on Child Labour, 1987 which provides for a number of welfare measures to minimise the exploitation of working children. Under the NCL Policy, project based plan of action has been launched in 9 areas of high concentration of child labour. Financial assistance is also proivded to voluntary agencies for taking up action-oriented projects for the benefit of child labour.

Enforcement of child labour legislation is principally the responsibility of the State Governments|administrations of Union Territories. They have been addressed from time to time to ensure strict enforcement of the laws. With a view to further strengthen the enforcement Machinery, 50 per cent financial assistance is given to State Governments under a centrally sponsored plan scheme.

Total Number of employment Exchanges

2441. SHRI R. T. GOPALAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of employment exchanges in the country, State wise;

(b) the total number of persons who have been provided with jobs through the employment exchanges during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether there is any proposal to make the employment exchanges more result-oriented;

(d) if so, he details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) A statement is annexed. (*See* below).

(b) Total number of persons who have been provided with jobs through the Employment Exchanges during the last three years are as follows:

Year	Number (in thousands)
1989	289.2
1990	264.5
1991	253.0

(c) to (e) Yes Sir. The functioning of the National Employment Services is being reviewed periodically to improve the services to employment seekers. A scheme to computerise all district level exchanges in the country is already under implementation. Training programmes are also being arranged for employment exchanges officials to improve their management capabilities. However, Employment Exchanges are only a referral agency against vacancies notified to them by various employers. Additionally Employment Exchanges are providing Vocational Guidance Assistance to the job seekers and councelling job seekers for self employment ventures. These activities are being further strengthen.

Statement

Number of Employment Exchanges functioning in the country as at the end of- 31-12-1991.

States/Union Territories	Number of Employment Exchanges (as on 31-12-1991)
1. Andhra Pradesh	33
2. Arunachal Pradesh	1
3. Assam	52
4. Bihar	64
5. Goa	1
6. Gujarat	42
7. Haryana	8
8. Himachal Pradesh	15
9. Jammu & Kashmir	14
10. Karnataka	37
11. Kerala	45
12. Madhya Pradesh	63
13. Maharashtra	42
14. Manipur	9
15. Meghalaya	7
16. Mizoram	3
17. Nagaland	7
18. Orissa	25
19. Punjab	43
20. Rajasthan	31
21. Sikkim	2
22. Tamil Nadu	33
23. Tripura	4
24. Uttar Pradesh	94
25. West Bengal	73
26. Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1
27. Chandigarh	2
28. Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1
29. Delhi	20
30. Daman & Diu	2
31. Lakshadweep	1
32. Pondicherry	1
Total :	854

Note :— 1. * No Employment Exchange is function ingin this State.

2. £ Includes University Employment information and Guidance Bureaux.

Construction of provident fund office in Guntur

4242. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state: